

REMARKS

Responsive to the election of species requirement set forth in the communication of November 25, 2003, applicants hereby provisionally elect the poly electrolyte of Example 1 (AMPS (Na salt)/acrylic acid (Na salt)) copolymer crosslinked with methylenebis (acrylamide). AMPS (Na salt) means sodium 2-methyl-2 [(1-oxo-2-propenyl) amino]-1-propane-sulfonate. The inverse latex of Example 1 is within the scope of claim 19. Applicants believe that claims 1 and 20-29 are generic.

At this time, applicants would also like to note that Sorbitan mono oleate ethoxylated with 20 moles of ethylene oxide is named MONTANOX<sup>TM</sup> 80 and not MONTANOV<sup>TM</sup> 80 as we stated in our amendment of October 15, 2002 on page 12.

Applicants maintain their traversal of the restriction requirement imposed in the outstanding Official Action of August 13, 2002 and the communication of November 25, 2003. The grounds for traverse are the same as those as set forth in the response of October 15, 2002.

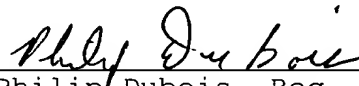
Indeed, it is believed that the outstanding restriction requirement is improper and must be withdrawn. Applicants request an action on the merits of all of claims 1-35, in their full scope in the present application. Such action is accordingly respectfully requested.

Application No. 09/888,441  
Response dated December 15, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of November 25, 2003  
Docket No. 0503-1082

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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